



#163 2623  
Docket  
3-28-04

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04208.0083

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

**Masahiro YAMAMOTO**

Serial No: 09/648,372

Filed: August 25, 2000

For: PATTERN INSPECTION APPARATUS,  
PATTERN INSPECTION METHOD, AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM

) Group Art Unit: 2623

) Examiner: Vikkram Bali

**RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAR 19 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Prior to the examination of the application, please amend the application as

follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on

page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 14 of this paper.

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